

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:83
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO WEAVERS
Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the hardships being faced by the handloom weavers and the artisans in the handicrafts sector;
- (b) whether the Government provides any financial assistance/subsidy to Self-Help Groups/Non- Governmental Organisations through the various schemes formulated for the handloom weavers and artisans;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the schemes formulated for the purpose along with names of such institutes/groups and the funds allocated to them during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government for promotion and development of handloom and handicrafts sectors in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (DR. KAVURU SAMBASIVA RAO)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.83 FOR ANSWER ON 12.08.2013.

(a): Handloom weavers are facing hardships/constraints primarily due to stiff competition from powerloom & mill sector, low productivity, limited scope for technological up gradation, inadequate credit availability at reasonable rate of interest and marketing facilities. Likewise, artisans in handicraft sector face hardships on account of inadequate availability of credit at reasonable rate of interest, shortage of power etc.

(b) to (d): For handloom weavers, under the Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS), financial assistance is released to the implementing agencies including NGOs fulfilling CAPART norms through State Governments. No assistance is provided to self help groups under IHDS. A statement showing the State-wise details of NGOs benefitted under IHDS is given at Annexure-I. Under Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme (MEPS), during the last three years and the current year, the central assistance released to NGOs is placed on Annexure II.

For artisans, Government of India also provides financial assistance to various implementing agencies through various schemes. The details of funds released to various implementing agencies during last three years and the current year state/UT wise is as per Annexure-III. Implementing agency wise details can be seen at the web site of Ministry at www.handicrafts.nic.in.

For overall development and welfare of handloom weavers in the country, Ministry of Textiles has been implementing the following schemes for handloom sector:-

1. Integrated Handloom Development
2. Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme
3. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme:
4. Mill Gate Price Scheme:
5. Diversified Handloom Development Scheme:
6. Revival Reform and Restructuring Package (RRR)

Further, Government has set up 25 weaver service centres throughout the country for providing various services such as skill upgradation, design and product development etc.

In respect of handicraft sector, following schemes are being implemented for the promotion and development of handicraft artisans:-

1. Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana
2. Marketing Support and Services Scheme
3. Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme
4. Human Resource Development Scheme
5. Research & Development Scheme
6. Comprehensive Handicrafts artisans Welfare Scheme

Government has also set up Bamboo and Cane Development Institute (BCDI) (Agartala), Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT) (Bhadohi) and Carpet Training Centres for promotion and development of handicrafts sector.